Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has assessed the manufacturing capacity of BHEL for new thermal capacity and to overcome the constraints, highlighting BHEL's present manufacturing capacity *vis-a-vis* the capacity planned to be added during the Eleventh Plan.

Expansion of BHEL as well as development of manufacturing capacity by generating CPSUs or private players alone or through joint ventures are possible options to augment the manufacturing capacity in line with the generation capacities being planned for the Eleventh Plan and beyond.

Vetting of production sharing contract

*289. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production sharing contract being signed by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the exploration blocks under NELP has been vetted by his Ministry;

(b.) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some provisions have been made in the contract to meet the contingencies arising out of the withdrawal of private contractor from the project without completion of work under NELP; and

(d) if so, the details-thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d) A Yes, Sir. As per information furnished by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, the Production Sharing Contracts signed between the Government of India and the awardee company/consortia under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) have been vetted by the Ministry of Law and Justice.

Under NELP, bids are invited through International competitive bidding process for allotment of exploration blocks where contractor has to bid minimum work programme, share of profit petroleum to the government and cost recovery limit. The Production Sharing Contracts contain the provision for submitting financial and performance bank guarantee by the company/consortia in favour of the government which can be revoked in the event of non performance/non compliance of relevant provisions of the contract.

Teacher absenteism in primary schools

†*290. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a report by UNESCO, normally 25 per cent of the teachers remain absent in prfmary schools of the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.